

SUMMARY STATEMENT

ITEM NO.: DRPA-17-042

SUBJECT: Approval of Citizens
Advisory Committee Membership
Nominations – Lea Fortunato, Bruce S.
Schwartz, and Daniel B. Norfleet

COMMITTEE:

Audit

COMMITTEE MEETING DATE:

June 7, 2017

BOARD ACTION DATE:

June 21, 2017

PROPOSAL: That the Board approve the nomination made by the Citizens Advisory Committee (“CAC”) to fill three (3) vacancies on the Committee.

PURPOSE: To fill vacancies on the CAC.

BACKGROUND: On September 15, 2010, the Board of Commissioners of the Delaware River Port Authority and the Board of Directors of the Port Authority Transit Corporation voted to create a Citizens Advisory Committee comprised of an equal number of residents of Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Those interested in becoming CAC members must complete and submit an application. Applications are available on DRPA’s website and also in One Port Center’s lobby, all four bridges, and at all PATCO stations. Applicants may not be related to any commissioner, officer, or Authority employee. No vendors or employees of companies doing business with DRPA or PATCO are eligible.

The CAC was formed and adopted its own bylaws, which provide that a Nominating Committee of the CAC will review applications from Pennsylvania and New Jersey residents submitted to the DRPA and recommend new members.

When a CAC opening becomes available, the CAC’s Nominating Committee selects candidates for recommendation to the Audit Committee. Before the CAC will advance a candidate to the Audit Committee for consideration, the Committee requires potential members to attend three (3) CAC meetings to familiarize themselves with Authority issues, become acquainted with CAC members, and to enable the CAC to assess whether the potential new member would be

an appropriate fit for such service. Audit Committee members are then invited to interview prospective CAC members. Once approved by the Audit Committee, the proposed new members are presented to the Authority Board for approval.

The CAC's Nominating Committee has selected three (3) new members for recommendation to the Board:

- **Lea Fortunato of Philadelphia, PA**

Lea Fortunato is a daily PATCO rider and uses the Ben Franklin Bridge about once a week. Ms. Fortunato describes herself as a “civic-minded” individual. After learning about the Citizen’s Advisory Committee, she felt this would be a “perfect” way for her to get involved. Ms. Fortunato has been attending CAC meetings since June 2016, and said in her interview that she has not missed a meeting during that time. She is interested in issues such as keeping PATCO trains on schedule, keeping PATCO riders informed about delays and emergencies, and instituting a discount for frequent PATCO users, similar to the E-ZPass Commuter Bridge Discount. Ms. Fortunato is also very interested in cleaning up the City, especially the areas surrounding the PATCO stations in Philadelphia. She recognizes much of this is outside of the control of PATCO. She feels the stations could be “brighter and cleaner.” Due to her current position working in the neurohealth field, she is interested in increasing accessibility for disabled PATCO riders. There are no apparent conflicts of interest in her serving on the committee.

- **Bruce S. Schwartz of Cherry Hill, NJ**

Mr. Schwartz is a PATCO rider, bridge user, and frequent user of the Ben Franklin Bridge walkway. He became interested in joining the CAC after applying for the PATCO Senior Citizen Discount. Mr. Schwartz believes he will be useful to the committee and confirmed he will be able to attend all the monthly meetings. Mr. Schwartz is interested in working for the “general good of society”. Mr. Schwartz is looking forward to learning from DRPA/PATCO Staff and the other CAC members. Mr. Schwartz is interested in elevator access at PATCO stations and investigations and basic audits by the Office of the Inspector General, among other CAC issues. Mr. Schwartz confirmed in his interview that attending monthly CAC meetings would not be a problem. There is no apparent conflict of interest in him serving on the committee.

- **Daniel B. Norfleet of Philadelphia, PA**

Mr. Norfleet is a PATCO rider and bridge user. As he is retired, Mr. Norfleet is available and willing to devote time to the CAC and has attended four (4) committee meetings and the April 19, 2017 DRPA Board Meeting. Mr. Norfleet brings a unique insight to the CAC as a former Transportation Manager. Not only does he have previous experience, he also is interested in transportation issues and considers himself a train/trolley aficionado. Mr. Norfleet is also interested in customer service. He also feels strong customer communication regarding service delays and schedule changes is crucial. Mr. Norfleet likes the LCD screens in the stations advising customers about delays and believes that customers also need a personal touch from the Authority. Ensuring disabled customers have access to PATCO trains and stations is another important issue to Mr. Norfleet. There is no apparent conflict of interest in him serving on the committee.

Commissioners Madden and Fentress, along with Chief Administrative Officer Toni P. Brown interviewed Lea Fortunato and Bruce S. Schwartz on March 16, 2017. Commissioner Madden and CAO Brown interviewed Daniel B. Norfleet on May 4, 2017.

The candidates will be presented to the Audit Committee on June 7, 2017, and, if approved, will be presented to the Board on June 21, 2017 and are being presented to the Board for approval. There are currently eleven (11) members from NJ, with one (1) vacancy open. Currently, there are six (6) members from PA with six (6) vacancies open. If these nominees are approved, the CAC will have the full complement of twelve (12) members from NJ. This will leave the CAC with four (4) vacancies in Pennsylvania (PA). Staff will continue to advertise the existence of the CAC in the hopes of attracting more PA resident applicants.

Current recruitment efforts include public outreach and making the CAC application accessible to interested community members. Public outreach occurs in the form of social media postings, news releases, and PATCO station signage which make public more aware of the CAC and membership. The last news release was sent out on 4/18/2017 to the media. A copy of the CAC application, along with more information on the Committee, is posted on both Authority websites (drpa.org and ridepatco.org). There are signs advertising the CAC at every PA

PATCO station. In the near future, the CAC will also be advertised on variable screens on the new trains. Potential members can also pick up copies of the CAC application at all the Authority’s public facilities - One Port Center, Ben Franklin Bridge, Walt Whitman Bridge, Betsy Ross Bridge, Commodore Barry Bridge, and at every station along the PATCO High Speedline. The applications are monitored by DRPA and PATCO staff and replenished often as needed, so they are always available to potential CAC members.

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| SUMMARY: | Amount: | N/A |
| | Source of Funds: | N/A |
| | Capital Project #: | N/A |
| | Operating Budget: | N/A |
| | Master Plan Status: | N/A |
| | Other Fund Sources: | N/A |
| | Duration of Contract: | N/A |
| | Other Parties Involved: | N/A |

DRPA-17-042

Audit: June 7, 2017

Board Date: June 21, 2017

**Approval of Citizens Advisory Committee Membership
Nominations- Lea Fortunato, Bruce S. Schwartz, and Daniel B. Norfleet**

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED: That the Board approve the appointments of Lea Fortunato of Philadelphia, PA, Bruce S. Schwartz of Cherry Hill, NJ, and Daniel B. Norfleet of Philadelphia, PA to serve as members of the Citizens Advisory Committee.

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